

LISTING OF THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

1. through 9. (canceled)

10. (previously presented) A method for manufacturing carbon-bonded refractory products, comprising:

using organic binder agents consisting essentially of a powdery, graphitable coal-tar pitch with a benzo[a]pyrene content less than 500 mg/kg and a coking value of at least about 80% by weight according to DIN 51905 and a graphitable binder agent that is liquid at room temperature with a coking value of at least about 15% by weight and a benzo[a]pyrene content less than 500 ppm according to DIN 51905, wherein said liquid graphitable binder agent consists essentially of a concentration of said powdery, graphitable coal-tar pitch in an amount of 10 to 65% by weight in a high boiling aromatic oil;

mixing at room temperature said organic binder agents and refractory granulations to form a mixture;

transferring said mixture to a moulded body; and

heat treating said mixture at a temperature of 150 to about 400° C.

11. (previously presented) The method according to claim 10, wherein said organic binder agents comprise 0.5 to about 4% by weight of said powdery, graphitable coal-tar pitch and 1.3 to about 4% by weight of said graphitable binder agent.

12. (previously presented) The method according to claim 10, wherein said using organic binding agents step comprises:

distilling coal-tar in a first distillation stage under normal or reduced pressure; and

distilling a residue of said first distillation stage under a pressure of no more than 1 mbar in an evaporator with a temperature that ranges from 300 to 380° C., wherein said residue has a mean residence time of 2 to 10 minutes.

13. (previously presented) The method according to claim 12, wherein said using organic binding agents step comprises using a solution of said powdery, graphitable coal-tar pitch in an anthracene oil.

14. (previously presented) The method according to claim 10, wherein said powdery, graphitable coal-tar pitch is in the form of a powder with a mean grain size of 10 to about 500 µm.

15. (previously presented) The method according to claim 10, wherein said powdery, graphitable coal-tar pitch has a softening point of over about 180° C.

16. (previously presented) The method according to claim 10, further comprising adding a naphthenic oil to said powdery, graphitable coal-tar pitch before mixing with said graphitable binder agent, wherein said naphthenic oil does not dissolve said powdery, graphitable coal-tar pitch.

17. (previously presented) The method according to claim 10, further comprising adding a carbon carrier to said mixture of refractory granulations and the organic binder agent before said transferring step.

18. (previously presented) The method according to claim 17, wherein said carbon carrier is graphite and/or carbon black.

19. (canceled)

20. (previously presented) The method according to claim 10, wherein the heat treating step results in the carbon-bonded refractory product having an anisotropic coke structure.